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(71) Applicant: **XEROX CORPORATION**
Stamford, CT 06904-1600 (US)

(72) Inventors:
• **Petersen, Karin**
Palo Alto, CA 94301 (US)
• **Dourish, James P.**
San Francisco, CA 94110 (US)
• **Edwards, Warren K.**
San Francisco, CA 94110 (US)

• **Lamarca, Anthony G.**
Redwood City, CA 94061 (US)
• **Lamping, John O.**
Los Altos, CA 94024 (US)
• **Salisbury, Michael P.**
Mountain View, CA 94040 (US)
• **Terry, Douglas B.**
San Carlos, CA 94070 (US)
• **Thornton, James D.**
Redwood City, CA 94063 (US)

(74) Representative:
Grünecker, Kinkeldey,
Stockmair & Schwanhäusser
Anwaltssozietät
Maximilianstrasse 58
80538 München (DE)

(54) **Extending application behavior through document properties**

(57) A document management system is provided which organizes, stores and retrieves documents according to properties attached to the documents. A property attachment mechanism allows an application to attach arbitrary static and active properties to a document. The active properties include executable code which perform document management functions to control the state and behavior of the document in response to a triggering event. In this manner, the state and behavior of the document is provided to a user and is accurately maintained even when the application is not running.

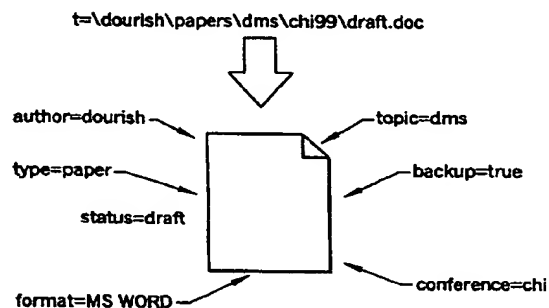


FIG.1



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 99 11 7039

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X	WO 91 14222 A (INTERLEAF INC) 19 September 1991 (1991-09-19) * abstract * * page 3, line 1 - page 6, line 11 * * page 10, line 1 - page 12, line 28 * * page 13, line 1 - page 19, line 22 * ---	1,2	G06F17/30
X	M. FREDRIKSSON: "Active Documents" SECOND HK/R STUDENT CONFERENCE ON ADVANCED OBJECT-ORIENTED CONCEPTS, 'Online! 17 January 1997 (1997-01-17), pages 1-10, XP002151012 Ronneby, SE Retrieved from the Internet: <URL:http://www.ide.hk-r.se/{bosch/A00C-pa pers.html}> 'retrieved on 2000-10-20! * abstract * 2. Problem Description, p.1-3 5. The Active Document Model, p.6-9 6. The Active Document Environment, p.10 ---	3,4,7,8	
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A	US 5 528 739 A (LUCAS PETER ET AL) 18 June 1996 (1996-06-18) * abstract * * column 1, line 26 - column 2, line 26 * * column 23, line 25 - line 62 * --- -/-	2,8	
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search MUNICH		Date of completion of the search 25 October 2000	Examiner Corcoran, P
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document</p> <p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons ----- & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

EPO FORM 1503 03.92 (P4C01)



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 99 11 7039

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
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A	<p>G. STAROVIC, V. CAHILL & B. TANGNEY: "An Event-Based Object Model for Distributed Programming" 'Online! December 1995 (1995-12), TRINITY COLLEGE DUBLIN, TCD-CS-95-28, DUBLIN, IE XP002151014</p> <p>Retrieved from the Internet: <URL: http://www.cs.tcd.ie/publications/tech-reports></p> <p>* abstract *</p> <p>2. Objects, Events and Constraints, p.2-6</p> <p>-----</p>	1-12	
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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
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EPO FORM 1503 03/82 (P04C01)

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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EP 99 11 7039

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
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25-10-2000

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